

# **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

Board of Trustees Betsy Bechtel • Pearl Cheng • Laura Casas Frier • Joan Barram • Bruce Swenson • Vincent Mendoza • Antonia Zavala

Board meeting of Jan. 7, 2013

### **SOME HEADLINES**

## **Trustees approved or reviewed:**

- Use of BoardDocs for agenda processing and viewing
- Creation of a new transfer degree at De Anza
- A contract related to the education center at Onizuka
- Appointments, promotions and retirements

To see background information for any of the items that appear below, go to http://www.fhda.edu/about\_us/ArchivedAgendas and click on the link for Jan. 7, 2013. That will download a file containing the agenda and all supporting documents.

### STUDY SESSION

BoardDocs training: Trustees took part in training for BoardDocs, an Internet-based system the district plans to begin using in February to prepare, post and archive board agendas and related documents for trustees, the campus community and members of the public. Using BoardDocs (http://www.boarddocs.com) is expected to increase efficiency and transparency by streamlining work and making it easier for all users to access information about the district.

#### **REGULAR SESSION**

New transfer degree: Trustees approved a new associate degree for transfer in English at De Anza for submission to the state chancellor's office for approval. It is one of a number of new transfer degrees that have been developed at both colleges. Transfer degrees are intended for students who plan to complete a bachelor's degree in a similar major at a California State University campus. The transfer degree guarantees admission to the CSU system but not a particular campus or major. Foothill Academic Senate President Dolores **Davison** commented that the first priority for California community colleges is creating transfer degrees for the 20 most popular transfer majors.

Measure C projects: In response to a question from Trustee Pearl Cheng, Executive Director of Facilities, Operations and Construction Management Charles Allen explained that a proposed contract with Vista Environmental Consulting covers preparation of drawings that will be used in soliciting bids for hazardous materials abatement related to building demolition at the former Onizuka Air Force Station. The district is awaiting transfer of the Onizuka property at no cost from the U.S. Department of Education to develop an education center there using Measure C bond funds.

### **HUMAN RESOURCES & PERSONNEL**

**Administrator appointments:** Trustees approved the hiring of **Liane Freeman** as director of marketing and strategy for the Krause Center for Innovation and **Nanette Solvason** as dean of the Biological & Health Sciences Division, both at Foothill College. The board approved the assignment of **Kurt Hueg** as interim dean of the Business and Social Sciences Division at Foothill through June 30.

**Promotions:** Trustees approved the promotion of ETS' **John Bartch** to computer systems integration specialist.

**Faculty retirements:** Trustees approved resignations for the purpose of retirement of instructors **Gary Lamit** at De Anza and **Ron Oburn** at Foothill, both effective June 28, and **Marilyn Patton** at De Anza, retroactive to Dec. 31, all under Article 19 of the faculty agreement.

**Contract extension:** The board approved an extension through June 30 of the grantfunded position of **Kei Fischer**, ICCE community organizer at De Anza.

**Classified retirements:** The board approved the following retirements – at De Anza, **Debbie Cashman**, instructional associate in Creative Arts; at Foothill, **Christy Godinez**, a financial aid assistant, and **Tita Shields**, an administrative assistant in counseling; and in Central Services, **Drake Lewis** in ETS, all retroactive to Dec. 28.

## REPORTS & HEARINGS OF ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

**Public comments: Ken Horowitz**, a Palo Alto resident and Foothill instructor, repeated the critique he made at the board's Dec. 10 meeting of the De Anza stadium project. He urged trustees to consider improvements such as adding stadium lights as funding becomes available.

**Presidents' comments**: De Anza President **Brian Murphy** reported that the college has nominated the following faculty and staff for the League for Innovation's new John and Suanne Roueche Excellence Awards: **Alicia Cortez** and **Paula Silva**, for their work with the Puente program; **Kent McGee**, for DegreeWorks; **Kevin Metcalf**, for captioning; and **Jim Haynes**, **Anu Khanna**, **Coleen Lee-Wheat**, **Mary Pape** and **Tono Ramirez** for student learning outcomes, student services learning outcomes and administrative unit outcomes.

President Murphy thanked De Anza Academic Senate President **Karen Chow** for her initiative in recruiting faculty and students to welcome and assist students on the first day of the winter quarter.

Foothill President **Judy Miner** reported that on Jan. 29, approximately 450 middle school students from area schools will visit Foothill and De Anza for an introduction to the idea of attending college. The early outreach is a collaborative effort between **Alexandra Duran**, Foothill outreach specialist, and De Anza's **Rob Mieso**, director of outreach and relations with schools. President Miner called it an example of the kind of outreach the colleges want to do, particularly with populations that haven't had a history of college-going.

President Miner noted that tickets (\$3) have gone on sale for the Foothill Physics Show, and that 3,000 people enrolled in the first 15 hours. Performances are Feb. 2-3 and Feb. 9-10 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. (<a href="http://www.thephysicsshow.com">http://www.thephysicsshow.com</a>). She commented on the delight of students, faculty and staff with the new Physical Sciences and Engineering Center as it

opened for classes this week. An open house for the new complex is scheduled Feb. 26 from 4:30-6:30 p.m.

**Chancellor's comments:** Chancellor **Linda Thor** reported on plans for visits to state legislators in conjunction with the Community College League of California's annual legislative conference Jan. 27-28. She noted that members of the Foothill-De Anza Foundation's "expanded and dynamic" board will take part in a retreat Feb. 7 to continue work on a strategic plan. She reported that **Sheryl Alexander**, the foundation's executive director, has joined the board of directors of the Silicon Valley Planned Giving Council, serving as the board's secretary.

**Trustee comments:** De Anza Student Trustee **Vince Mendoza** reported on a web page maintained by the California Student Aid Commission (<a href="https://dream.csac.ca.gov">https://dream.csac.ca.gov</a>) to help AB 540 students prepare to apply for financial aid under the California Dream Act. Eligibility for financial assistance is a major milestone for undocumented students, he said.

Foothill Student Trustee **Antonia Zavala** reported on plans for a panel discussion and reception March 12 during Women's Heritage Month. For the discussion on women in leadership, joining her will be board President **Betsy Bechtel**, Chancellor Thor, President Miner and ASFC President **Joseline Diaz**.

Trustee **Bruce Swenson** reported on meeting in Washington, D.C., with Under Secretary of Education **Martha Kanter** and **Hal Plotkin**, a senior policy advisor in the Department of Education. He said that in addition to discussing the department's successes over the past four years and the challenges ahead, the former district chancellor and trustee said they think often of Foothill-De Anza and try to keep up with the news from here.

Board President Bechtel welcomed everyone to the first board meeting of 2013 and congratulated Foothill on the opening of the Physical Sciences & Engineering Center.

## **NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is a study session scheduled for Feb. 4 at 1 p.m. in the District Board Room. A regular meeting will follow at 6 p.m. in the Board Room. Agendas generally are posted 72 hours in advance at <a href="http://www.fhda.edu/about\_us/board/agenda/">http://www.fhda.edu/about\_us/board/agenda/</a>. Please check the agenda to verify time and location of the meeting, as changes may occur.

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